

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES, PACIFIC
OFFICE OF THE THEATER JUDGE ADVOCATE
WAR CRIMES BRANCH

APD 500
10 October 1945

MEMORANDUM TO: Prosecution Section (Report # 70)
THRU: Executive Officer, War Crimes Branch
SUBJECT: Price House Case, Manila

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II. SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE.

By 9 February 1945, most of the houses in the vicinity of Colorado Street, Ermita District of Manila, had been set on fire by the Japanese, or by bombing or shelling (R 2, 19). Most of the residents of the neighborhood attempted to seek shelter at the Philippine General Hospital, but were prevented from doing so by the Japanese, who fired on those who appeared in the streets (R 2, 14, 19). The house of Dr. Price, located at the corner of Colorado and California Streets, was of concrete construction with a large garden surrounded by a concrete wall, and during the day of 10 February 1945, many residents of Colorado and adjacent streets congregated in the house and garden of the Price residence (R 2, 8, 14).

The number of people assembled at the Price residence is variously estimated at from two hundred to seven hundred (R 20, 24). Japanese sentries appeared at irregular intervals (R 2), but apparently did not molest any of the refugees until about 1700 in the afternoon, at which time approximately thirty marines, commanded by three officers, appeared on the scene (R 4). When the marines appeared many of the refugees were inside the house; others had taken shelter in the basement, while still others were lying against the walls of the house and garden, using bundles of food and clothing as barricades (R 3). The Japanese marines came into the garden shouting and shooting, and after a few minutes shouted an order in English for the people inside the house to come out. Those inside filed out, and when they reached the garage at the rear of the premises, the Japanese opened fire on them with machine guns, rifles and pistols (R 4, 8, 14). The whole group fell to the ground either dead, wounded or feigning death. The Japanese then walked among the victims, and with bayonet or bullet, administered the coup de grace to those who made a sound or movement (R 4). A supply of

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whiskey was then discovered in the Price residence, and after an orgy of drinking, the Japs urinated on the dead bodies, and also caught a pig and permitted it to lick the blood off the floor (R 5).

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